Recommendations about monopoly drugs

135. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has accepted certain recommendations even without examination and whether these are in public and country's interest;

(b) if so. the detail of those recommendations and reasons for such attitudes;

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has even decontrolled the prices of those drugs for which 95 % of the sale of formulations and 100 % of production of bulk drug is controlled by one company;

(d) if so, the names of such drugs;

(e) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is encouraging monopoly by one company;

(f) by whom these recommendations were examined; and

(g) what steps have been taken by Government to rectify the position?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (e) The recent exclusion of 15 drugs from price control under DPCO, 1987 has been done on the basis of recommendations of the Kelkar Committee contained in their Supplementary Report.

(f) and (g) The recommendations were examined at various levels in the Ministry.

Prices of bulk drugs

136. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of bulk drugs for which prices have been fixed since November, 1988 and what were their earlier prices and what are their revised prices;

(b) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has not fixed the prices of certain drugs for which BICP made recommendations;

(c) if so, when was each recommendation received from BICP and by when the price of each will be fixed; and

(d) what are the main reasons for delay in fixation of prices and what is the time period which each recommendation takes ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) The names of the bulk drugs and its derivatives for which prices have been fixed since November, 1988 with their earlier prices are given it. the Annexure *(See* Appendix CL, Annexure No. 4).

(b) to (d) Appropriate action has been taken on all the recommendations received from the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices till date regarding fixation/revision of prices of bulk drugs.

Prices of Vitamin A and Vitamin C bulk drugs

137. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has shifted Vitamin A and Vitamin C from price decontrol to price control under Category-II;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has fixed the prices of these bulk